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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/314,123	05/19/1999	NOBUAKI MIYAHARA	35.G2391	4726

5514 7590 11/23/2001

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EXAMINER

TRAN, DOUGLAS Q

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2624

DATE MAILED: 11/23/2001

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/314,123

Applicant(s)

MIYAHARA ET AL.

Examiner

Douglas Q. Tran

Art Unit

2624

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-15 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-15 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on ____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☒ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) ____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). ____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. Claims 1-12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over the combination of Nakai et al. (US Patent No. 6,081,342) and Ohnishi et al. (US Patent No. 5,655,152).

As to claim 1, Nakai teaches:

a first memory (73 in fig. 5) that inputs and stores data for each of a plurality of jobs, and transfers the data for each of jobs to an output device (col. 24, lines 47-50);

a second memory (table 151, col. 29, lines 38-40);

a controller (74 in fig. 5) that, when a transfer of data from the first memory has ended for a given job, stores history information for the given job in the second memory(table 151, col. 29, lines 38-40); and

an interface circuit that receives a status inquiry and forwards the status inquiry to the controller, wherein upon receipt of the status inquiry and sends the retrieved history information to the interface circuit (col. 15, lines 54-60: the controller 74 incorporates with the interface so that the controller receives the status inquiry from the interface and sends the history information to the interface).

However, Nakai does not teach the controller retrieves the history information from the second memory, and sends the retrieved history information to a client.

Ohnishi teaches job request processing unit 26 for retrieves the history information from the second memory (35 in fig. 31) and sending the retrieved history information to a client (25 in fig. 31).

It would have been obvious to have modified the controller of Nakai for retrieving the history information from the second memory (35 in fig. 31) and sending the retrieved history information to a client as taught by Ohnishi. The suggestion for modifying the system of Nakai can be reasoned by one of ordinary skill in the art as set forth by Ohnishi because Ohnishi teaches the server can easily processing the job and provide the information of that job to a client by managing the information when the client or an output unit is connected to the server.

As to claim 2, Nakai teaches the second memory and the first memory are implemented in the same physical device (col. 28, lines 30-31).

As to claim 3, Nakai teaches the history information indicates whether the transfer of data for a given job has either terminated normally, terminated abnormally, or terminated as a result of a stop instruction received from a user (140 in fig. 24 or 150 in fig. 25).

As to claim 4, Nakai teaches the status inquiry (148 or 142 in fig. 24) includes information that specifies at least one category of data transfer job, and the controller sends history information corresponding only to the specified at least one category to the interface circuit (fig. 25).

As to claim 5, Nakai teaches the output device comprises a printer (32 in fig. 2).

As to claim 6, Nakai teaches:

connection means (96 in fig. 12) for connecting to an external device (93 in fig. 12);
input means (fig. 24) for inputting an instruction to execute a job.

Although Nakai does not teach processing means for processing the job based on the instruction input by the input means and informing means for informing a result of the job processing executed by the processing means to the external device, Nakai teaches the digital copying machine 93 processing a job from the sender and informing the result of the job to the sender. Therefore, the digital copying machine 93 would including processing means and informing means. Furthermore, Ohnishi teaches informing means (26 in fig. 28) for response a result of the job (from 35 in fig. 28) processing executed by the processing means (26 in fig. 28) to the external device (25 in fig. 28).

It would have been obvious to have modified the system of Nakai in order to have processing means and informing means in the digital copying machine 93 for processing the job and reporting the result of the job to the user as taught by Ohnishi. The suggestion for modifying the system of Nakai can be reasoned by one of ordinary skill in the art as set forth by Ohnishi because Ohnishi teaches the server can easily processing the job and provide the information of that job to a client by managing the information when the client or an output unit is connected to the server.

As to claim 7, Nakai teaches storage means (col. 29, lines 38-40) for storing the result of the job in correspondence with a type of the job (712 in fig. 33 as taught by Ohnishi); wherein the informing means informs the result of the job stored in the storage means.

As to claim 8, Nakai teaches storage means stores the result of the job together with time information (i.e., request date or erasing date 151 in fig. 25).

As to claim 9, Ohnishi teaches the storage means selectively stores the result of the job (from 35 in fig. 31) according to the type of the job (712 in fig. 33b).

As to claim 10, Ohnishi teaches the informing means (26 in fig. 31) informs the result of the job (from history managing unit 35 in fig. 31) in response to an instruction provided from the external device (25 in fig. 31) connected to the connection means.

As to claim 11, Ohnishi teaches the connection means is connected to a network for connecting a plurality of terminals, and the informing means (26 in fig. 28) informs the result of the job to one of the terminals (25 in fig. 28) connected to the network.

As to claim 12, Ohnishi teaches the informing means informs (26 in fig. 28) the result of the job in correspondence with a user inquiry (i.e., job request) made at the one of the terminal(25 in fig. 28).

3. Claims 13-15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over the combination of Dash et al. (US Patent No. 6,069,624) and Ohnishi et al. (US Patent No. 5,655,152).

As to claims 13 and 15, Dash teaches:

discriminating a result of the job executed by the data processing apparatus (fig. 12 shows the result of the job is discriminated by 44 in fig. 3 and provided to the user for displaying); and

However, Nakai does not teach informing the discriminated result of the job to an external device connected to the data processing apparatus.

Ohnishi teaches informing means (26 in fig. 28) for providing a result of the job (from 35 in fig. 28) to the external device (25 in fig. 28).

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It would have been obvious to have modified the system of Nakai for informing in the digital copying machine 93 for reporting the result of the job to the user as taught by Ohnishi. The suggestion for modifying the system of Nakai can be reasoned by one of ordinary skill in the art as set forth by Ohnishi because Ohnishi teaches the server can easily processing the job and provide the information of that job to a client by managing the information when the client or an output unit is connected to the server.


As to claim 14, Dash teaches a step of storing the result of the job in correspondence with a type of the job (see fig. 12); wherein the informing step informs the result of the job stored in the storing step (40 in fig. 32).

Contact Information

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Douglas Q. Tran whose telephone number is (703) 305-4857 or E-mail address is Douglas.tran@uspto.gov.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-4700.

Douglas Q. Tran
Nov. 17, 2001



JOSEPH MANCUSO
PRIMARY EXAMINER